

water than the northern salt lake was no doubt due to the heavy rainfall of the preceding few days. A spell of warm, bright weather would undoubtedly result in a very appreciable diminution of the inflow into the southern salt lake; whereas in the northern salt lake the diminution would be less noticeable, seeing that during that same warm spell the glaciers and the snow would be melting at a greatly intensified rate.

It may be assumed, that the southern lake-complex shrinks considerably during the winter, just as the northern lake does. Even the salt lake there freezes, though somewhat later of course than its freshwater neighbours.

September 7th. Camp XLIII was pitched about one km. west-north-west of Camp XXXVI, on the northern edge of a big pool, through which the above-mentioned large river runs. The altitude above sea-level was there 4,865 m. Our march this day was westwards through a relatively narrow latitudinal valley, more irregular in form than usual. Close to our route we had, on our left, a low mountain-ridge, bent round like a bow. On the south of this is the valley through which the river flows, bordered on its farther (southern) bank by a similar chain of low hills. Still farther south rises the mountain-range which forms the southern border of the lake-basin. It is to it that the snowy mass T' belongs, the largest orographical complex at this time within sight. To the north our prospect was shut off by a range of rounded hills and low mountains at a distance of about 2 km. And it was under similar conditions to these that the latitudinal valley appeared to be continued for a long way towards the west. In the part of it that we were then traversing there is only one large stream, which empties itself into a pool; but on the other hand there are a great number of tiny rivulets and miniature brooks, all terminating in pools, of which there is likewise an immense number. Thus the low ridge which I have mentioned above constitutes the boundary between a region on the south which is traversed by a very deeply trenched watercourse and another region on the north which is cut up into a great number of self-contained basins of infinitesimal dimensions. Crossing over this little ridge, we encamped on the left bank of the river (alt. 4,888 m.) beside some small hills. As we advanced westwards the grazing grew worse, though here it was again pretty fair. Here the river was not half as big as it was in the lower part of its course, and moreover it was as clear as crystal, from which it may be inferred that lower down it is joined by some turbid tributary.

About midway in the curving range small fragments of porphyry, of a dark violet colour, cropped up out of the soft ground. On the southern side of the same range red sandstone, excessively weathered, cropped out at 56° to the S. 38° W. The débris in the bottom of the latitudinal valley consisted all the way of gravel of these two species of rock.

All the mountains in the region, even those that are lowest, were covered with snow.

September 8th. To the S. 54° W. was a dominating snow-clad peak, which I intended marching round before we turned our faces towards the north-west on the way back to Temirlik. The volume in the part of the river beside which we were encamped had in the morning shrunk to about 3 cub.m., and its current was divided into two arms. Both the bed of the river and the adjacent banks were